

## Positive Alternatives 2017 - 18 Quarterly Update

**Grantee (Name and city):** Tandem Family Resource Center (formerly Tapestry), Minneapolis

**Contact:** Sara Kisrow

**Phone and Email:** 612-823-0301 sara@wearetandem.org

**Goal:** To provide necessary support and referrals to pregnant and parenting women in Minnesota.

**For the period/quarter:** Quarter 2, 2017/18

Activity or Service	Activity or Service Description Major Work Plan Activities	Work Plan Count	Program Progress and Accomplishments Report the progress and accomplishments made this period on each activity.	Report Count
Administrative Activities	Administer Positive Alternatives grant activities			
Outreach	Promotion of Positive Alternative Grant activities			
Car Seat Program	- Car Seat Education - Car Seat Distribution	6	Car seats were distributed to all clients who participated in our prenatal program and delivered during Quarter 4. Since the majority of our clients are low-income and without insurance, this program helps to relieve the financial burden of purchasing new equipment.	6

<b>Case Management Services</b>	Provide on-going telephone follow-up and/or office appointments for clients testing positive for pregnancy as well as single mothers who are in crisis and need support services	75	Program has been very successful. Initial meeting with a client can be overwhelming with so much info. The follow up allows us to reiterate programs and services available and set up appropriate appointments to help clients follow through on receiving services.	90
<b>Child Care Assistance</b>	Provide resources and referrals to help clients find childcare	5	Child care resources continue to be a significant need for moms. Program helps to provide referrals that fit specific need of client.	19
<b>Crib Distribution/ Sleep Safety Education</b>	-Sleep Safe Education -Crib Distribution	6	Cribs and sleep safety were distributed to clients who participated in our programming including prenatal services. Since the majority of our clients are low-income and without insurance, this program helps relieve the financial burden of purchasing new equipment.	13
<b>Education Assistance</b>	-Provide education planning and resource referrals to assist clients with completing GED/diploma, 2 year job training programs -Provide workstations with computers for clients to use -Coordinate and supervise volunteer mentors who provide GED tutoring -Provide vocational training onsite (customer service & green construction)	5	Many of our clients have not completed their high school diploma. Advocates are assisting client in signing up for GED classes and offering ongoing support to encourage clients to follow through and complete the process.	5
<b>Employment Assistance</b>	-Provide access to our Vocational Training and Employment Counseling. -Provide soft skills training (emotional regulation, conflict resolution, problem solving, etc. to assist them in being successful	5	As clients begin to express interest in moving into full time employment and off of MFIB, advocates are available to help with resume writing cover letters mock interviews, online job search and applications. See challenges.	1

	in employment) -Provide career planning and resource referrals to assist clients with finding employment -Provide workstations with computers for clients to use			
<b>Financial Assistance</b>	Provide assistance in completing financial assistance and crib (pack n' play) applications	15	Clients who find themselves in a pregnancy related crisis and unable to afford rent meet with an advocate to prepare a financial assistance application for Cradle of Hope. In addition, advocates prepare crib applications to provide extra support and a safe place for baby to sleep through Cradle of Hope.	17
<b>Housing Assistance</b>	-Provide resources and referrals to help clients find housing -Provide housing resource through community Partner Esther Homes, Inc. -Serve as advocate for application and transition into Jeremiah Program.	10	Finding affordable housing options continues to be a serious challenge for our clients. Advocates work closely with clients and local property management companies to search out affordable lease options for clients. In addition, advocates may help clients find shelters or transitional housing options. See challenges.	1
<b>Life-Skills Education Program</b>	Provide financial accountability/money management education -Provide life skills education	25	Clients who are interested in learning financial management tools, employment education and life skill education can attend classes to work through applicable curriculum, learn from an instructor and participate in group discussions.	29
<b>Material Support</b>	Provide material assistance such as diapers, maternity and baby clothes to pregnant and parenting women	75	Material support continues to be a significant need. Program numbers continue to rise.	145
<b>Mental Health</b>	-Provide individual therapy sessions to pregnant and parenting mothers in crisis -Provide referrals for mental health assessments or assistance	25	Counseling program is flourishing as clients are able to work on deeper issues related to their current crisis situation.	41

	with treatment programs -Facilitate support group for pregnant and parenting mothers in crisis -Provide emotional health and healing workshop			
<b>Nutrition</b>	Provide health and nutrition education and cooking classes -Provide prenatal vitamins	5	The revamped Health & Nutrition class continues to be a success. Curriculum is more applicable to clients on WIC and SNAP, helping them to eat healthy on a budget and move toward a place where WIC and SNAP are no longer needed.	19
<b>Parenting Education</b>	-Provide parenting education utilizing the <i>Parenting with Love and Logic</i> Curriculum -Coordinate and supervise volunteer Parenting Mentors	20	Parenting education continues to flourish and be a place where clients learn how to break unhealthy cycles of parenting, how to parent with love and logic, and how to teach children responsibility and high self worth.	18
<b>Pregnancy Education</b>	Provide pregnancy education and counseling for women in prenatal program beginning at first New OB appointment through post-partum follow up appointment, -Provide childbirth education	45	Prenatal program continues to be successful. Clients seem very receptive to the prenatal health education and enjoy the opportunity to ask questions and get important information regarding their pregnancy.	42
<b>Pregnancy Testing</b>	Provide pregnancy counseling and testing.	30	Pregnancy testing and peer counseling continues to be a significant need in this community.	22
<b>Pregnancy Verification for MA</b>	Provide intake assessments, pregnancy tests, and pregnancy verification for Medical Assistance application for pregnant women.	15	Pregnancy testing and verification continues to be a significant need. All clients with a positive pregnancy test are given a verification form for insurance purposes.	11

<b>Provide Necessary Services to all clients</b>	Provide intake assessment to determine need. Provide women with information on, referral to and assistance with securing pregnancy support Work services. Utilize resource database to provide information and make referrals	60	All clients complete an intake assessment to determine their need and the level of their need(s). All necessary services provided by Tandem are made available to each client. All new clients are made aware of all services provided by Tandem and potential referrals if needed.	59
<b>Provide Necessary Services Assessments Only</b>	Provide intake assessment to determine need. Provide women with information on, referral to and assistance with securing pregnancy support Work services. Utilize resource database to provide information and make referrals	20	All clients complete an intake assessment to determine their need and the level of their need(s). Necessary services not provided by Tandem are addressed with a referral to a partner agency. Tandem is working to make more services, such as housing, available through our agency versus a referral.	16
<b>Ultrasound</b>	Provide ultrasound	15	Every positive pregnancy test client is transitioned into an ultrasound. This service continues to be an incredibly valuable tool in providing clients with an opportunity to bond with their baby.	12

<b>Maternal and Child Health Initiative Task Force Strategies</b>	<b>No.</b>
<i>Number of women who received car seats and car seat safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	6
<i>Number of women who received car seat safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received child abuse prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	0

<i>Number of women who received abusive head trauma (shaken baby) prevention education from a PA funded program activity</i>	0
<i>Number of women who received a baby bed, crib, or pack-n-play and sleep safety education from a PA funded program activity</i>	13
<i>Number of women who received sleep safety education only from a PA funded program activity</i>	0

**Challenges:** Employment Assistance Program: Many of our clients are challenged with lack of employment opportunities available to them that provide sufficient income to support their families. Many times our clients that struggle to find adequate employment lack the education level necessary to qualify for jobs that would sufficiently support them and their families. Tandem continues to work with clients encouraging online job search/applications and advocate assistance in the areas of resume writing and interviews. We continue to promote our computer lab area and are brainstorming on how to increase the interest in this service. Housing Assistance Program: Many of our clients are challenged with lack of employment opportunities that provide sufficient earnings to maintain an appropriate residence for themselves and their families. Tandem continues to work with clients encouraging housing searches and referrals to transitional and shelter housing.

**Comments:**